

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application and for indicating that claims 1-6 and 9 are allowed.

Applicants further thank the Examiner for discussion claim 7 with applicants' attorney, Brad Spencer, on February 18 and 19. Proposed claim language was discussed and is reflected in the current amendment to claim 7. The examiner agreed that the amendment appears to distinguish over JP2003-143449, which is cited in the outstanding Office action.

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP2003-143449. Amended claim 7 recites, "a screw-shaped dehumidification regulation body, having a dehumidification element and an electrode integrated therein, wherein the screw-shaped dehumidification regulation body is screwed into the screw hole of the camera housing." The cited reference teaches a casing 2, miscellaneous equipment mounted inside of the casing, and screws 63, 64. However, the reference does not teach "a screw-shaped dehumidification regulation body, having a dehumidification element and an electrode integrated therein" or that a screw-shaped dehumidification regulation body is screwed into a screw hole of the casing (cited for the claimed housing). In view of the differences between the subject matter of claim 7 and the cited reference, applicants respectfully submit that claim 7 is allowable over said reference. Claim 8 depends from claim 7.


Claims 1-6 and 9 were allowed.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Appln. No. 10/597,213
Amendment dated March 10, 2009
Reply to Office Action dated February 10, 2009

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. OHNO-40791.

Respectfully submitted,
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